REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 2-17 are pending in the application. Claims 11 and 12 are amended. Claim 11 is amended to clarify the difference between the cover and the lid of the high frequency circuit element. Support for the amendments to claim 11 are shown in Figures 1 and 2 and in the application at pages 7-9. Changes made to the claims by the current amendment are shown in the attached "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."

Preliminarily, Applicants thank the Examiner for discussing the case. The amendments and remarks contained herein are consistent with the draft amendment faxed on May 23, 2002.

The specification has been amended to correct an error in reciting "Fig. 97" rather than "Fig. 9" in the replacement paragraph submitted with the Amendment and Response dated October 30, 2001.

Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 12 has been amended to properly depend from claim 11, rather than claim 2.

Claim 11 has been amended to overcome the objection of grammatical correctness.

Claims 11-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Toyoshima, JP 5007101. Applicants traverse this rejection to the extent it is maintained.

Claim 11 has been amended to recite both a lid and a cover. The lid is part of a metal box that electromagnetically shields the high frequency circuit by enclosing the substrate within it. The cover, which is distinct from the lid, interrupts an unwanted high-order mode and surrounds an input/output line of the high frequency circuit within an internal space of the metal box. The technical merit of the cover (plate) is described in the specification and has been discussed in the previous Amendment and Response.

Toyoshima does not disclose a member corresponding to the cover of the present invention, other than the lid of the box. Applicants therefore submit that Toyoshima does not teach every limitation of claim 11. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toyoshima in view of Buck et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,164,358. Applicants traverse this rejection to the extent it is maintained.

As discussed above, Toyoshima fails to teach both a lid and a cover, as is required by claim 11. Buck fails to remedy this deficiency. Furthermore, neither Toyoshima, Buck, nor a

combination of these references suggest that both a lid and a cover would be useful or needed for their respective devices. Therefore, Applicants submit that these references, alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest every limitation of claim 11 and dependant claims 15-17. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration of the application in the form of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Please replace the replacement paragraph beginning at page 1, line 36 that was submitted with the previous Amendment and Response dated October 30, 2001, with the following amended paragraph:

--Figs 9 and 10 respectively show another example of a conventional high-frequency circuit element using a strip conductor pattern. Also in Fig. 9[7], a box lid 81 shown in Fig. 10 is omitted so that the internal structure of the box of the high-frequency circuit element can be seen. In the configuration shown in Fig. 10, eight hairpin resonators 89a, 89b, 89c, 89d, 89e, 89f, 89g, 86h are used so as to form an eight-stage band pass filter. The structure of the other parts is the same as the conventional high-frequency circuit element shown in Figs 7 and 8 and will not be further described.--

In the Claims

Claims 11 and 12 have been amended as follows:

11. (Twice Amended) A high-frequency circuit element comprising:

a substrate,

a high-frequency circuit disposed on said substrate,

a metal box with a lid electromagnetically shielding said high-frequency circuit by enclosing said substrate there within,

an input/output terminal placed on said metal box and inputting/outputting a high-frequency signal to/from said high-frequency circuit, and

a cover, for interrupting an unwanted high-order mode, surrounding an input/output line of said high-frequency circuit within an internal space of said metal box so as to suppress the propagation of high-frequency waves.

12. (Twice Amended) The high-frequency circuit element according to claim [2] 11, wherein said cover for interrupting an unwanted higher-order mode comprises a conductor.